

US Army Corps of Engineers Fort Worth District

Public Notice

Applica	ant: City of Round Rock, Texas
Permit	Application No.: 200200684
Date:	September 24, 2004

The purpose of this public notice is to inform you of a proposal for work in which you might be interested. It is also to solicit your comments and information to better enable us to make a reasonable decision on factors affecting the public interest. We hope you will participate in this process.

Regulatory Program

Since its early history, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has played an important role in the development of the nation's water resources. Originally, this involved construction of harbor fortifications and coastal defenses. Later duties included the improvement of waterways to provide avenues of commerce. An important part of our mission today is the protection of the nation's waterways through the administration of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program.

Section 10

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is directed by Congress under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403) to regulate all work or structures in or affecting the course, condition or capacity of navigable waters of the United States. The intent of this law is to protect the navigable capacity of waters important to interstate commerce.

Section 404

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is directed by Congress under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344) to regulate the discharge of dredged and fill material into all waters of the United States, including wetlands. The intent of the law is to protect the nation's waters from the indiscriminate discharge of material capable of causing pollution and to restore and maintain their chemical, physical and biological integrity.

Contact

Name: Ms. Jessica Napier

Phone Number: (817) 886-1745

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, FORT WORTH DISTRICT

AND

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

SUBJECT: Application for a Department of the Army Permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and for water quality certification under Section 401 of the CWA to discharge dredged and fill material into waters of the United States associated with the modification of approximately 4,000 linear feet of an intermittent tributary of Dry Branch Creek associated with floodwater management in the city of Round Rock, Williamson County, Texas.

APPLICANT: City of Round Rock
Mr. Tom Word, P.E.

Public Works Director Department of Public Works 2008 Enterprise Driver

Round Rock, Texas 78664

APPLICATION NUMBER: 200200684

DATE ISSUED: September 22, 2004

LOCATION: The proposed flood control project would be located along 6,540 linear feet of an unnamed intermittent tributary to Dry Branch Creek downstream of Gaddis School Road in the city of Round Rock, Williamson County, Texas. The proposed project would be located approximately at UTM coordinates 628923.248 East and 3375443.635 North (Zone 14) on the Round Rock 7.5-minute USGS quadrangle map in the USGS Hydrologic Unit 12030102.

OTHER AGENCY AUTHORIZATIONS: State Water Quality Certification

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The city of Round Rock, Texas, proposes to construct modifications to an unnamed intermittent tributary of Dry Branch Creek for a distance of approximately 6,540 linear feet downstream of A.W. Grimes Boulevard in the city of Round Rock, Williamson County, to provide floodwater management, address concerns of public safety, normalize water conveyance, reduce water velocities and, improve existing streambed and bank erosion (Sheets 1 through 18 of 18).

The proposed project would include the discharge of approximately 5,100 cubic yards of dredged and fill material into approximately 2.24 acres of waters of the United States (U.S.) in conjunction with the modification of approximately 6,540 linear feet of a unnamed intermittent

tributary to Dry Branch Creek. Approximately 4,500 linear feet of the 6,540 linear feet of the unnamed intermittent tributary have already been excavated into a trapezoidal channel design. In addition, the remaining 2,000 linear feet of stream channel was previously straightened. The portion of the stream channel that has been excavated into a trapezoidal channel design has become a braided system of stream channels with poor water flow. Head cutting, invasive aquatic species, and sediment deposition are occuring in the 2,000 linear foot segment of stream channel that has not been excavated into a trapezoidal channel design.

The proposed stream modification project would improve the previously channelized stream channel functions and would decrease flooding of nearby residential areas. The permit area has been divided into three design segments:

- Segment 1 is the downstream portion of the project area from approximately 1,600 to 3,600 feet downstream of the centerline of A.W. Grimes Boulevard (2,000 linear feet);
- Segment 2 is located in the middle portion of the project area from approximately 340 to 1,600 feet downstream of the centerline of Gattis School Road (4,000 linear feet); and
- Segment 3 is the upstream portion of the project area from approximately 200 feet upstream of the centerline of Gattis School Road to approximately 340 feet downstream of the centerline of Gattis School Road (540 linear feet).

In Segment 1 (which has been previously excavated to a trapezoidal earthen channel), the proposed project would include the following channel modifications: construction of a meandering stream channel with riffle/pool complexes; excavation of accumulated sediments from the existing trapezoidal channel to a bottom width of 100 feet; construction of a rock wall approximately 4 feet in height with a vegetated slope above it; revegetation with native herbaceous vegetation; and modification of 2 box culverts at Logan Drive to install a low flow culvert.

In Segment 2, which covers the 2,000 linear feet of stream channel was previously straightened and a 2,000 linear-foot-long portion of the stream that has been previously excavated into a trapezoidal channel downstream of A.W. Grimes Boulevard, the proposed project would include the following channel modifications: excavation of a 8 to 9 foot deep trapezoidal channel with a top width ranging between approximately 112 to 156 feet and a bottom width of 80 to 115 feet to match the upstream and downstream contours; revegetation with native herbaceous vegetation; construction of a meandering stream channel with riffle/pool complexes; planting of native trees and shrubs along the top of the bank to create a 30-foot wide forested riparian zone; and the construction of approximately 8,000 linear feet of rock toe wall (4,000 linear feet on each bank).

In Segment 3 (which has been previously excavated to a trapezoidal earthen channel), the proposed project would include the following channel modifications: removal of loose rock by hand; the placement of an erosion control mat on the vegetated side slopes; construction of a meandering stream channel with riffle/pool complexes; and the construction of approximately 325 linear feet on the north bank of rock toe wall and 175 linear feet of rock toe wall on the south bank.

Historically the stream functioned as an intact system. However in the 1980s portions of the stream were channelized. As part of that flood control project, the subject 6,540 linear feet of the stream was hydrologically altered. A large portion of this stream no longer functions as a stream. The alteration of the hydrology adversely affected the stream system's ability to flush and move accreted silts and sediment. As such, a large portion of the channel has areas containing several feet of sediment. The proposed project would involve the restoration of normal flows through the construction of a meandering stream channel with riffle and pool complexes and the removal of accumulated sediments.

To determine the size, shape, and slope of the meandering stream channel, the applicant conducted hydrology and hydraulic studies. The design of the stream channel would allow the system to transport sediments without erosion or accretion. The inside bends of the meandering pilot channel would include a "point bar" (floodplain bench) that would be inundated by bank high flows. The applicant would stock pile soil from areas with native aquatic vegetation to place in the "point bar" areas (See figure 6 of 18).

The applicant has made efforts to minimize adverse impacts to the environment by designing the project to restore and maintain the functions and values of the stream system. The applicant stated that the restoration of a stream channel and removal of invasive species in the previously channelized 4,000 linear feet of stream would compensate for the modification of the 2,000 linear feet of stream channel that has not previously excavated into a trapezoidal channel. The applicant proposes to develop and implement best management practices (BMPs) during project construction in order to eliminate and/or mitigate against the pollution of storm water runoff downstream from construction activities. A number of BMPs for erosion and sedimentation control would be implemented for the project including, but not limited to: (1) seeding of disturbed areas; (2) planting vegetation on highly erodible or critically eroding areas; (3) constructing a temporary rock berm every 500 feet within the stream channel; and (4) building a temporary sediment barrier consisting of a filter fabric stretched across and attached to supporting poles and entrenched.

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW FACTORS: This application will be reviewed in accordance with 33 CFR 320-331, the Regulatory Program of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and other pertinent laws, regulations, and executive orders. Our evaluation will also follow the guidelines published by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Section 404(b)(1) of the CWA. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impact, of the proposed activity on the public interest.

That decision will reflect the national concerns for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including its cumulative effects. Among the factors addressed are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The USACE is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the USACE in determining whether to issue, issue with modifications, or conditions, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: This project would result in a direct impact of greater than three acres of waters of the state or 1,500 linear feet of streams (or a combination of the two is above the threshold), and as such would not fulfill Tier I criteria for the project. Therefore, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) certification is required. Concurrent with the processing of this Department of the Army application, the TCEQ is reviewing this application under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, and Title 31, Texas Administrative Code Section 279.1-13 to determine if the work would comply with State water quality standards. By virtue of an agreement between the USACE and the TCEQ, this public notice is also issued for the purpose of advising all known interested persons that there is pending before the TCEO a decision on water quality certification under such act. Any comments concerning this application may be submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, 401 Coordinator, MSC-150, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. The public comment period extends 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. A copy of the public notice with a description of the work is made available for review in the TCEQ's Austin Office. The complete application may be reviewed in the USACE's office. The TCEQ may conduct a public hearing to consider all comments concerning water quality if requested in writing. A request for a public hearing must contain the following information: the name, mailing address, application number, or other recognizable reference to the application; a brief description of the interest of the requestor, or of persons represented by the requestor; and a brief description of how the application, if granted, would adversely affect such interest.

ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES: The USACE has reviewed the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's latest published version of endangered and threatened species to determine if any may occur in the project area. The proposed project would be located in an area where the whooping crane (*Grus americana*), least tern (*Sterna antillarum*), bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*), black-capped vireo (*Vireo atricapillus*), golden-cheeked warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*), Bone Cave harvestmen (*Texella reyesi*), Coffin Cave mold beetle (*Batrisodes texanus*), and Tooth Cave ground beetle (*Rhadine persephone*) are known to occur or may occur as migrants. The whooping crane, least tern, black-capped vireo, golden-cheeked warbler, Bone Cave harvestmen, Coffin Cave mold beetle, and Tooth Cave ground beetle are endangered species and the bald eagle and piping plover are threatened species. Our initial review indicates that the proposed work would have no effect on federally-listed endangered or threatened species.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES: The USACE has reviewed the latest complete published version of the National Register of Historic Places and found no listed properties to be in the project area. However, presently unknown scientific, archaeological, cultural or architectural data may be lost or destroyed by the proposed work under the requested permit.

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT: The USACE is sending a copy of this public notice to the local floodplain administrator. In accordance with 44 CFR part 60 (Flood Plain Management Regulations Criteria for Land Management and Use), the floodplain administrators of participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a floodplain development permit is required and maintain records of such review.

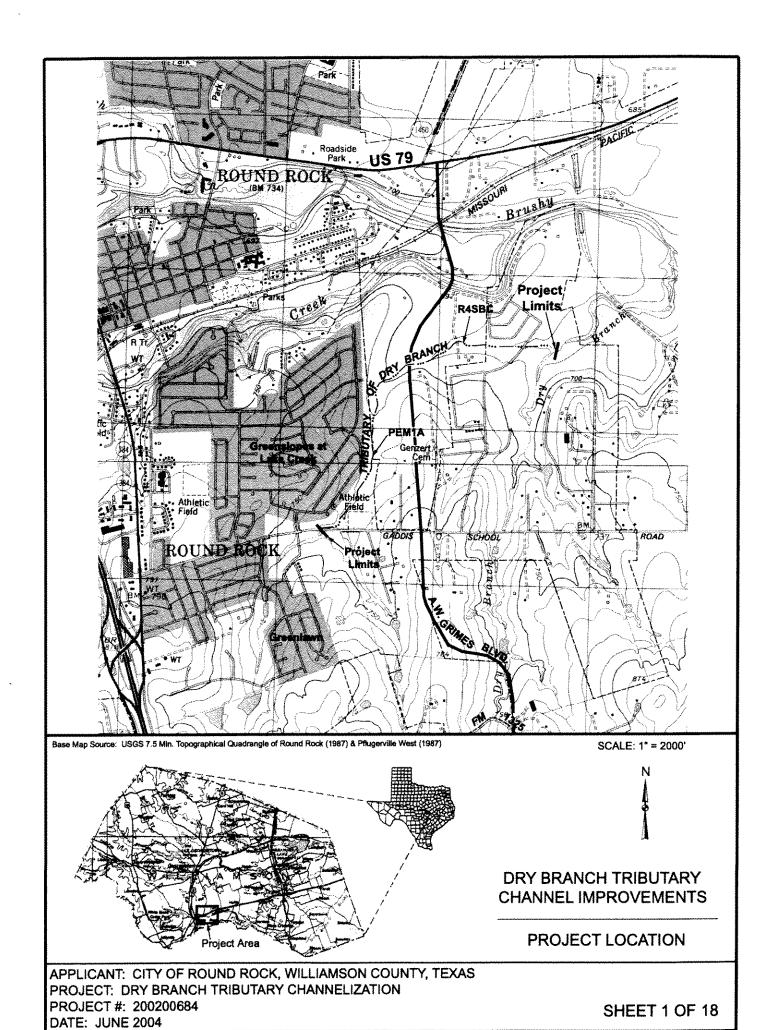
SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: The public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing fact upon which a decision by the USACE may be based. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition.

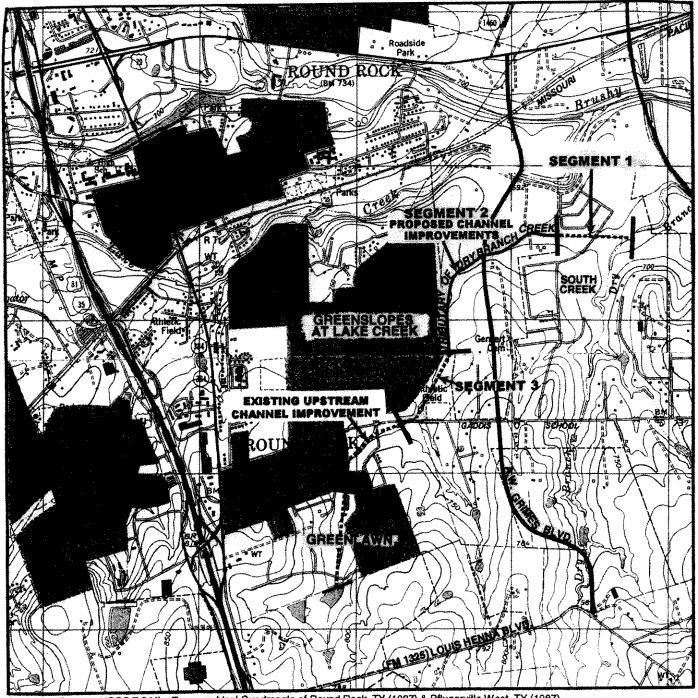
PUBLIC HEARING: Prior to the close of the comment period any person may make a written request for a public hearing setting forth the particular reasons for the request. The District Engineer will determine whether the issues raised are substantial and should be considered in his permit decision. If a public hearing is warranted, all known interested persons will be notified of the time, date, and location.

CLOSE OF COMMENT PERIOD: All comments pertaining to this Public Notice must reach this office on or before October 24, 2004, which is the close of the comment period. Extensions of the comment period may be granted for valid reasons provided a written request is received by the limiting date. If no comments are received by that date, it will be considered that there are no objections. Comments and requests for additional information should be submitted to Ms.

Jessica Napier; Regulatory Branch, CESWF-PER-R; U. S. Army Corps of Engineers; Post Office Box 17300; Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300. You may visit the Regulatory Branch in Room 3A37 of the Federal Building at 819 Taylor Street in Fort Worth between 8:00 A.M. and 3:30 P.M., Monday through Friday. Telephone inquiries should be directed to (817) 886-1731. Please note that names and addresses of those who submit comments in response to this public notice may be made publicly available.

DISTRICT ENGINEER FORT WORTH DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS





Base Map Source: USGS 7.5 Min. Topographical Quadrangle of Round Rock, TX (1987) & Pflugerville West, TX (1987)

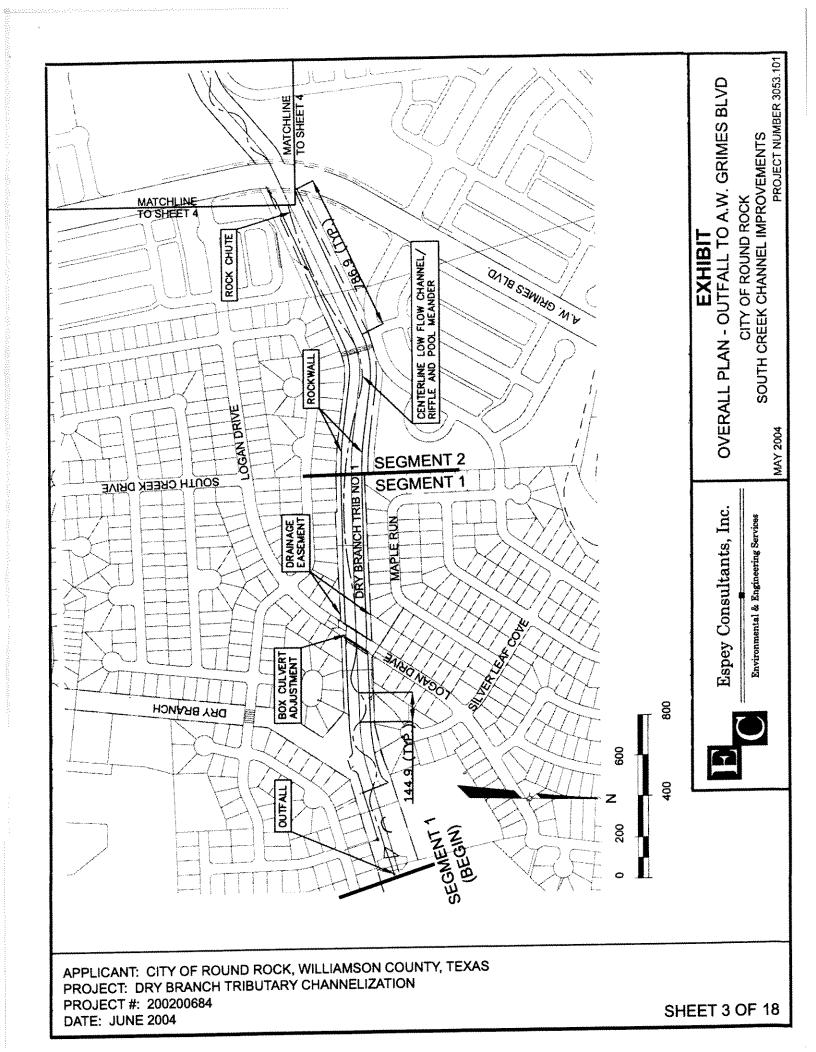


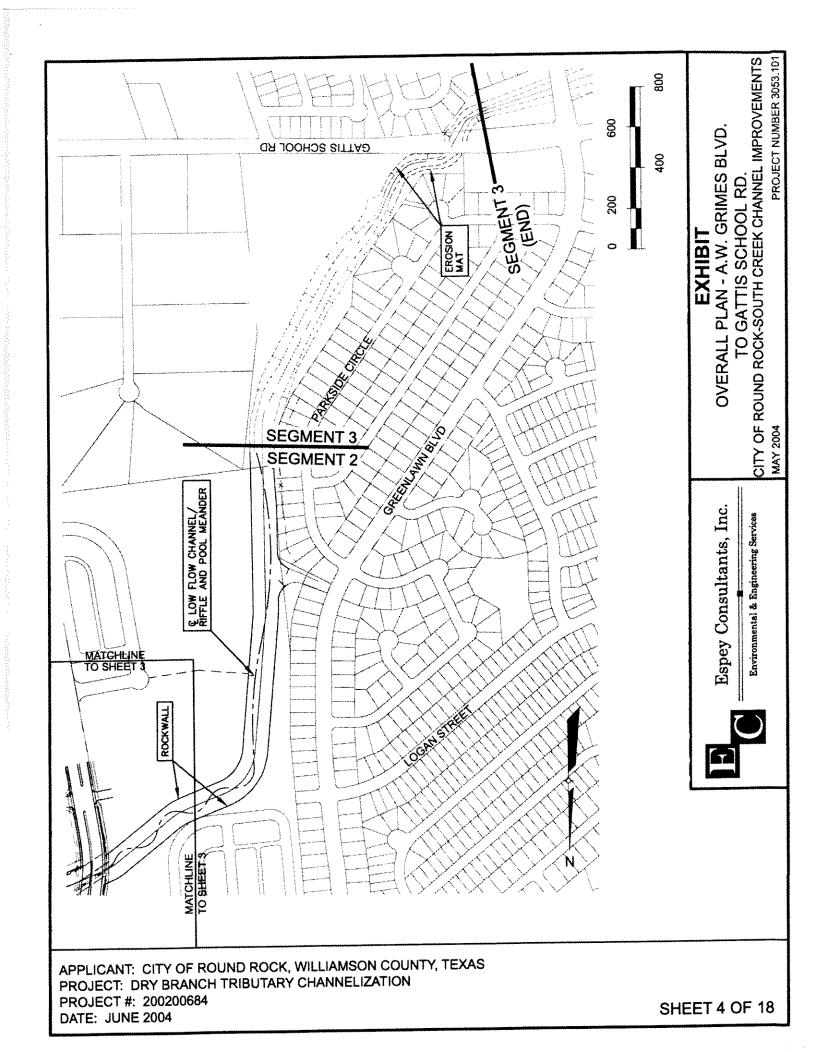
APPLICANT: CITY OF ROUND ROCK, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

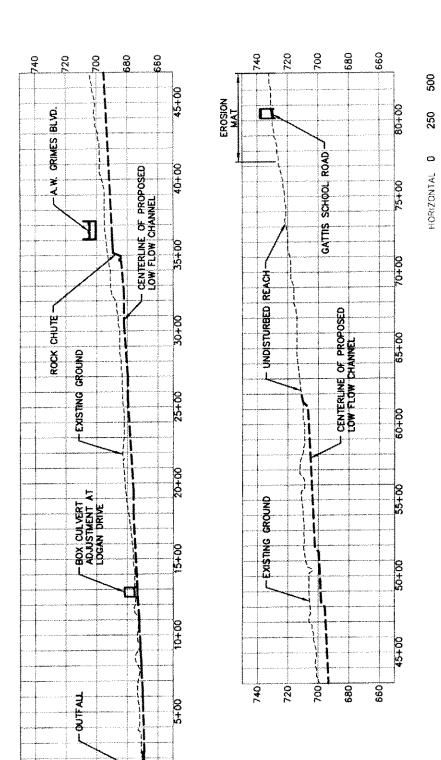
PROJECT: DRY BRANCH TRIBUTARY CHANNELIZATION

PROJECT #: 200200684

SHEET 2 OF 18 DATE: JUNE 2004







PROJECT NUMBER 3053,101 SOUTH CREEK CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS OVERALL PROFILE CITY OF ROUND ROCK EXHIBIT MAY 2004

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VERTICAL

Environmental & Engineering Services

Espey Consultants, Inc.

TOP OF BANK VARIES 8' TO 10' ABOVE CENTERLINE OF PROPOSED LOW FLOW CHANNEL.

NOTE:

APPLICANT: CITY OF ROUND ROCK, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

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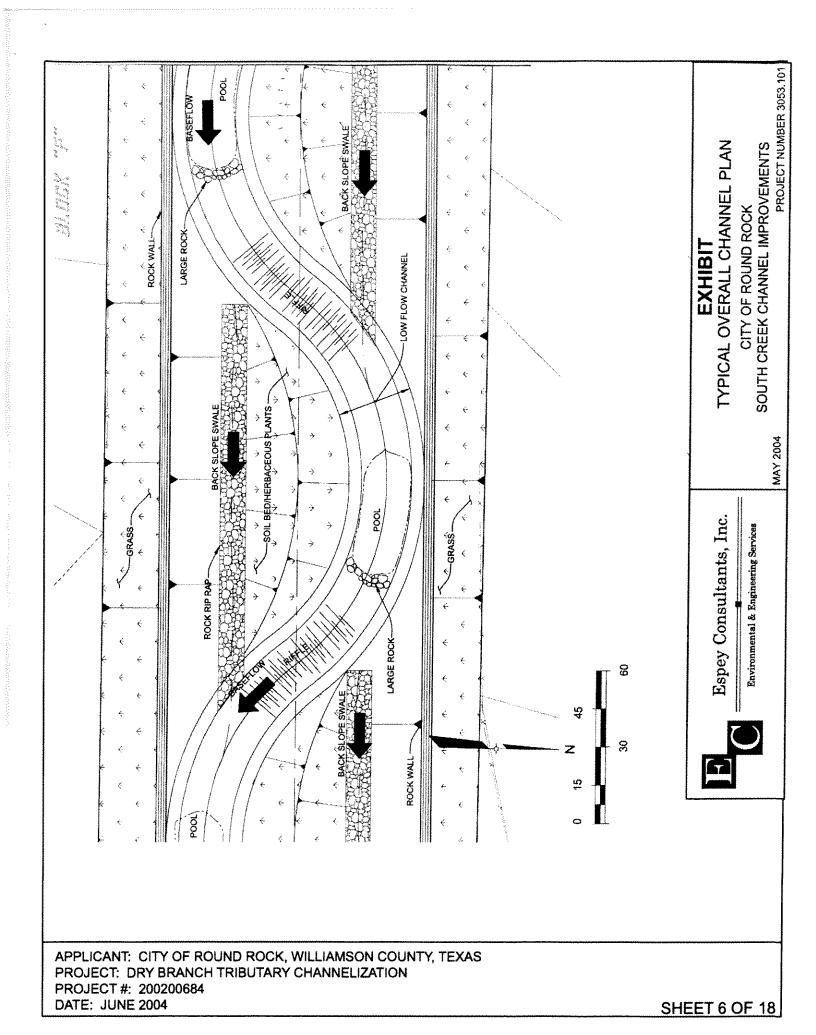
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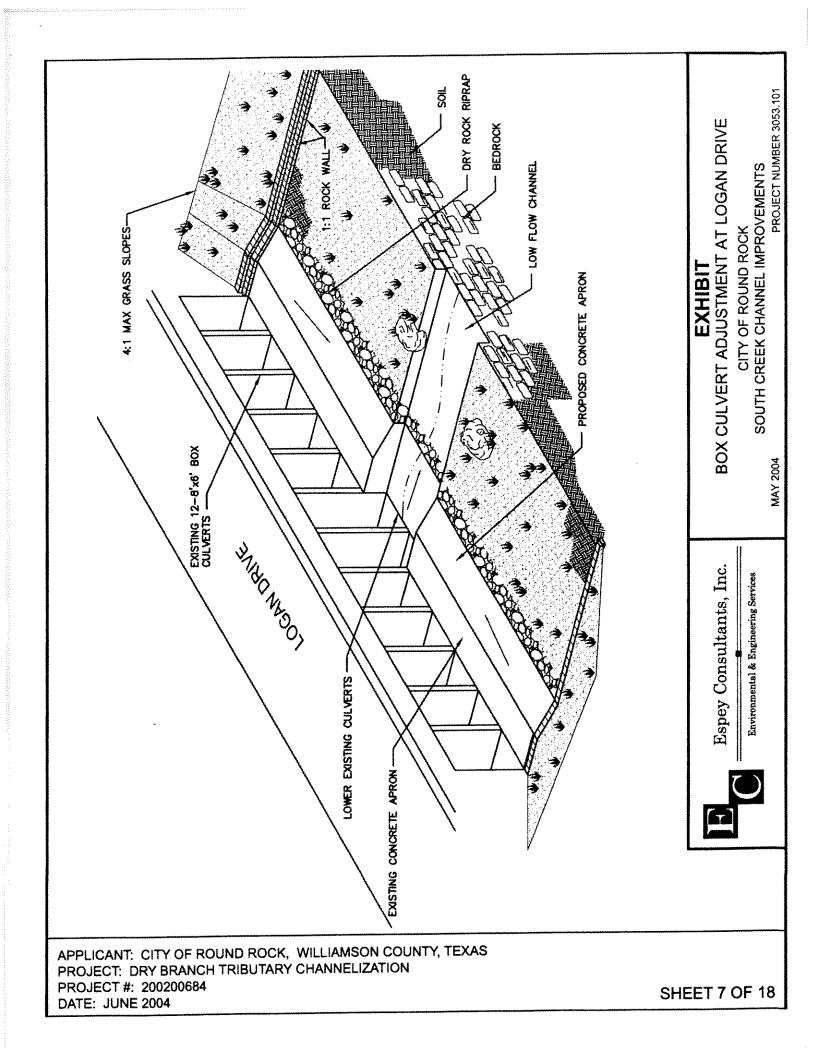
PROJECT#: 200200684 DATE: JUNE 2004

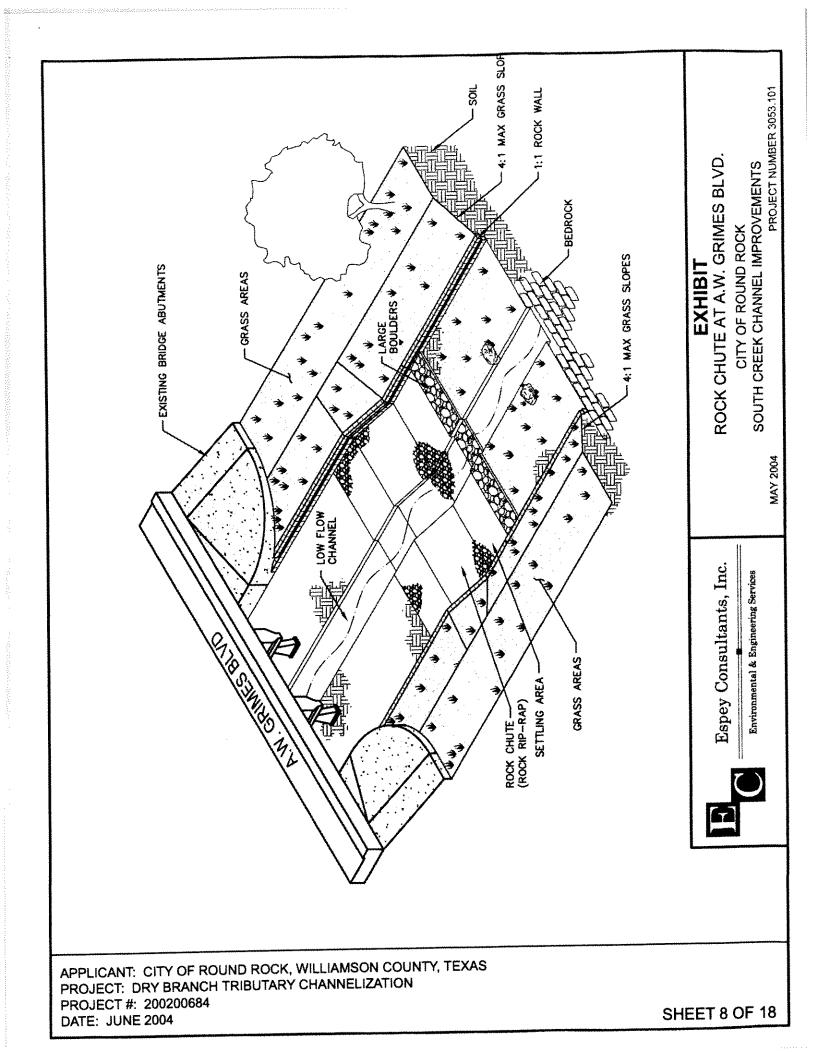
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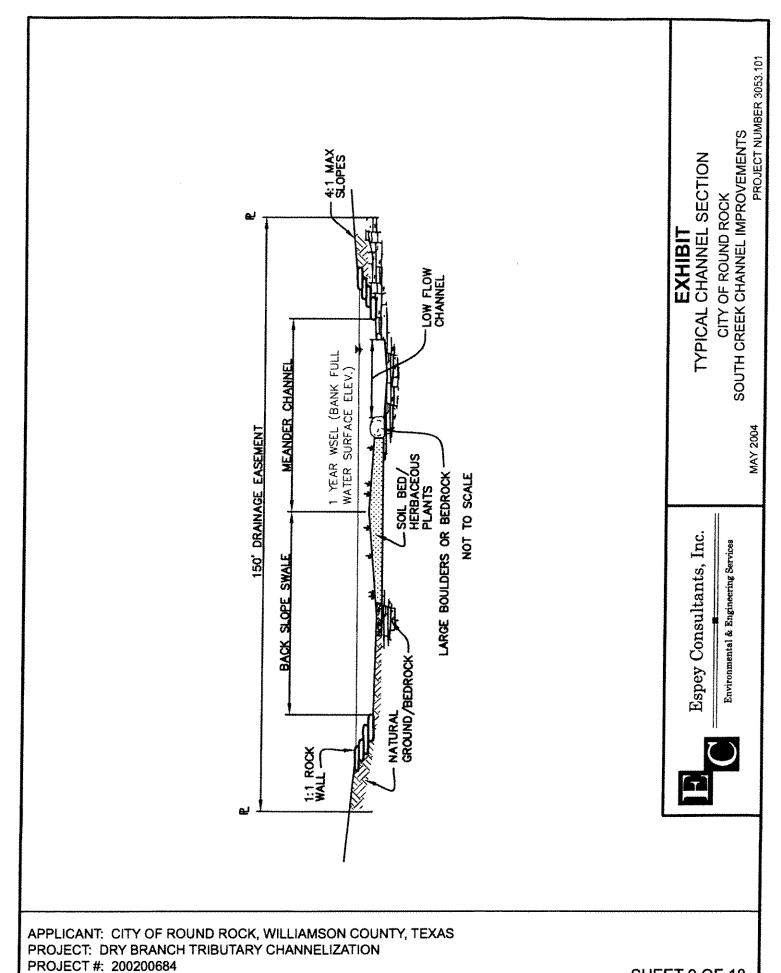
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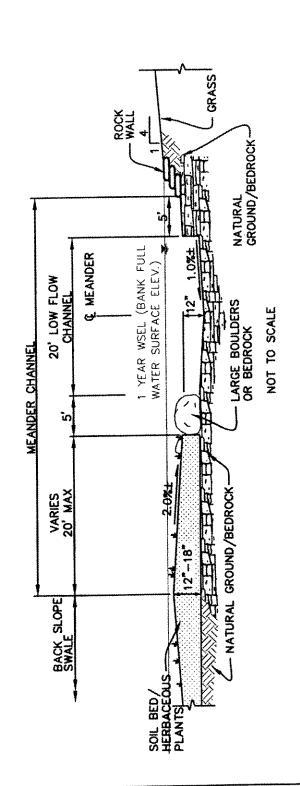






DATE: JUNE 2004

SHEET 9 OF 18



PROJECT NUMBER 3053,101 TYPICAL MEANDER & LOW FLOW CHANNEL SECTION SOUTH CREEK CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS CITY OF ROUND ROCK **EXHIBIT** MAY 2004

Espey Consultants, Inc. Environmental & Engineering Services

APPLICANT: CITY OF ROUND ROCK, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

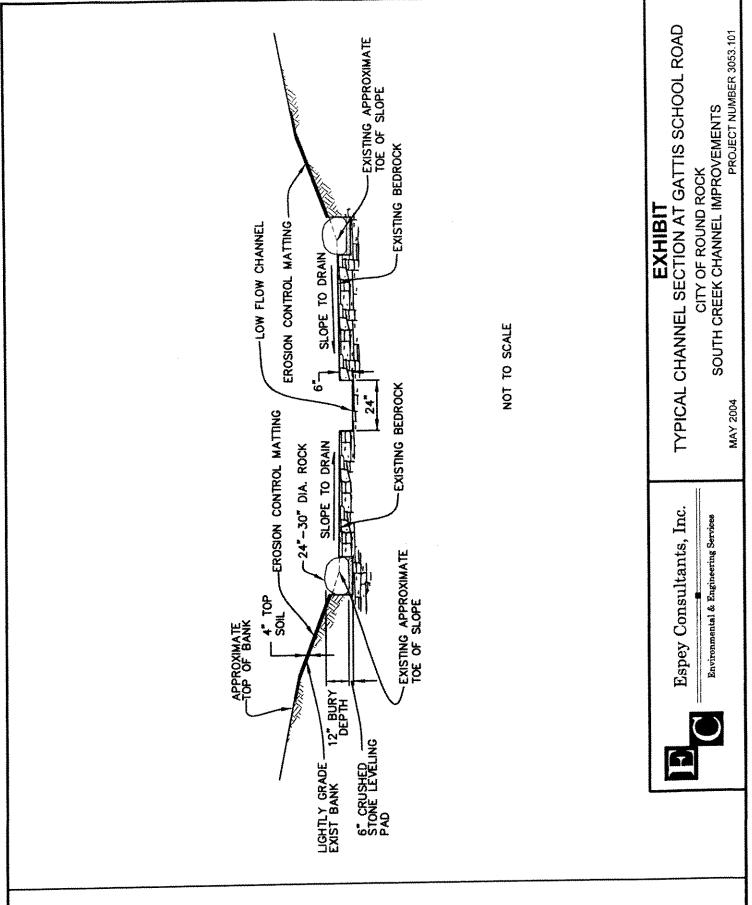
PROJECT: DRY BRANCH TRIBUTARY CHANNELIZATION

PROJECT #: 200200684 DATE: JUNE 2004

PROJECT NUMBER 3053,101 SOUTH CREEK CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS TYPICAL BACK SLOPE SWALE MEANDER CHANNEL CITY OF ROUND ROCK EXHIBIT VARIES 20' MAX ROCK RIP RAP BACK SLOPE SWALE NOT TO SCALE MAY 2004 0 Espey Consultants, Inc. Environmental & Engineering Services (BANK FULL WATER SURFACE ELEV.) -NATURAL GROUND/BEDROCK 20. YEAR WSEL ROCK TOE WALL

APPLICANT: CITY OF ROUND ROCK, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS PROJECT: DRY BRANCH TRIBUTARY CHANNELIZATION

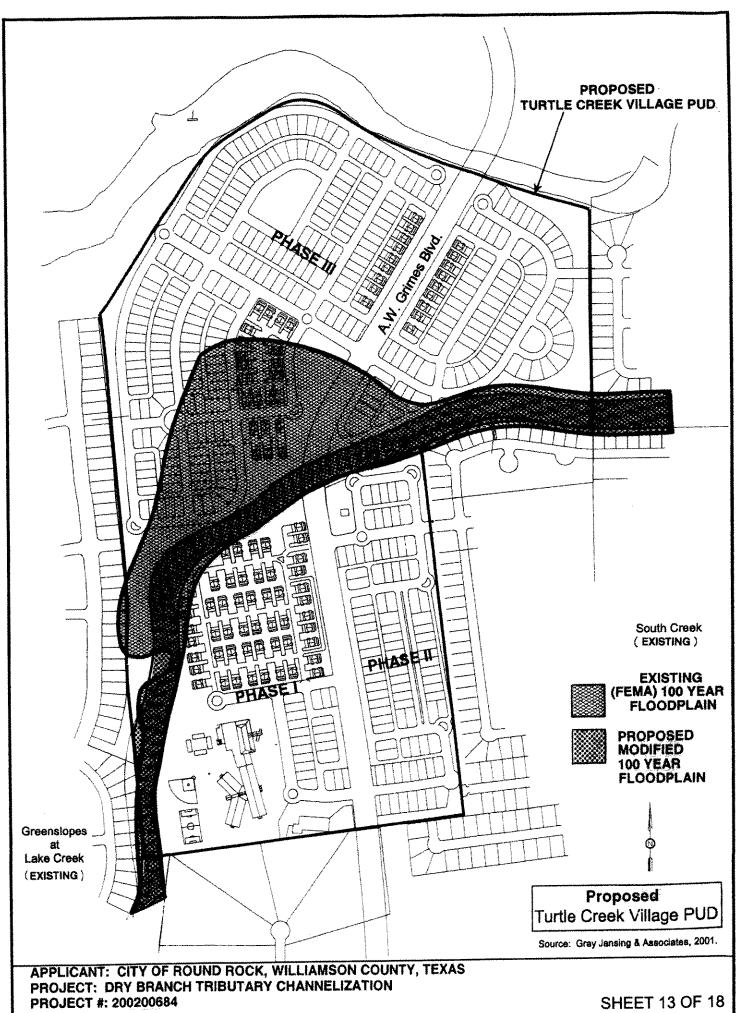
PROJECT #: 200200684 DATE: JUNE 2004



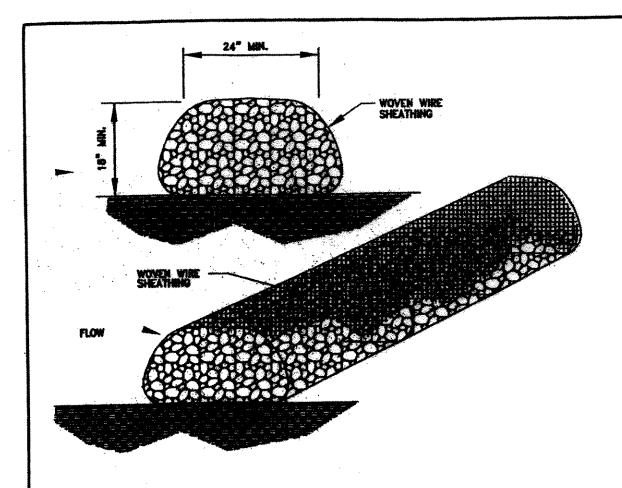
APPLICANT: CITY OF ROUND ROCK, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS PROJECT: DRY BRANCH TRIBUTARY CHANNELIZATION

PROJECT #: 200200684 DATE: JUNE 2004

SHEET 12 OF 18



DATE: JUNE 2004



CENERAL, HOTES:

- 1. USE ONLY OPEN GRADED ROCK 3-5 INCHES DIAMETER.
- 2. THE BOCK BERM SHALL BE SECURED WITH A WOVEN WIRE SHEATHING HAVING MAXIMUM 1 RICH OPENINGS AND MINIMUM WIRE DIAMETER OF 20 GAUGE.
- 3. THE ROCK BERN SHALL BE INSPECTED WEEKLY OR AFTER EACH RAIN, AND THE STONE AND/OR FABRIC CORE WOVEN WIRE SHEATHING SHALL BE REPLACED WHEN THE STRUCTURE CEASES TO FUNCTION AS INTENDED, DUE TO SILT ACCUMULATION AMONG THE ROCKS, WASHOUT, CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC DAMAGE, ETC.
- 4. WHEN SILT REACHES A DEPTH EQUAL TO ONE—THIRD THE HEIGHT OF THE BERM OR ONE FOOT, WHICHEVER IS LESS, THE SILT SHALL BE REMOVED AND DISPOSED OF IN AN APPROVED SITE AND IN SUCH A MAINER AS TO NOT CREATE A SILTATION PROBLEM.
- 5. DAILY INSPECTION SHALL BE MADE ON SEVERE SERVICE ROCK BERMS: SILT SHALL BE REMOVED WHEN ACCUMULATION REACHES 6 INCHES.
- 6. WHEN THE SITE IS COMPLETELY STABILIZED, THE BERM AND ACCUMULATED SILT SHALL BE REMOVED AND DISPOSED OF IN AN APPROVED MANNER.

ROCK BERM

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N.T.S.

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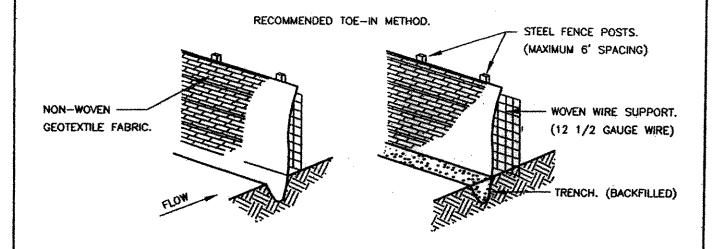
APPLICANT: CITY OF ROUND ROCK, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

PROJECT: DRY BRANCH TRIBUTARY CHANNELIZATION

PROJECT #: 200200684

DATE: JUNE 2004

SHEET 14 OF 18



NOTES:

- 1. SILT FENCE SHALL CONFORM TO ENVIRONMENTAL MANUAL, SECTION 1, WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT, 1.4.2G SILT FENCE.
- 2. STEEL POSTS WHICH SUPPORT THE SILT FENCE SHALL BE INSTALLED ON A SLIGHT ANGLE TOWARD THE ANTICIPATED RUNOFF SOURCE. POST MUST BE EMBEDDED A MIN. OF ONE (1') FOOT.
- 3. THE TOE OF THE SILT FENCE SHALL BE TRENCHED IN WITH A SPADE OR MECHANICAL TRENCHER, SO THAT THE DOWNSLOPE FACE OF THE TRENCH IS FLAT AND PERPENDICULAR TO THE LINE OF FLOW. WHERE FENCE CANNOT BE TRENCHED IN (E.G. PAVEMENT) WEIGHT FABRIC FLAP WITH WASHED GRAVEL ON UPHILL SIDE TO PREVENT FLOW UNDER FENCE.
- 4. THE TRENCH MUST BE A MINIMUM OF 6 INCHES DEEP AND 6 INCHES WIDE TO ALLOW FOR THE SILT FENCE FABRIC TO BE LAID IN THE GROUND AND BACKFILLED WITH COMPACTED MATERIAL.
- 5. SILT FENCE SHOULD BE SECURELY FASTENED TO EACH STEEL SUPPORT POST OR TO WOVEN WIRE, WHICH IN TURN IS ATTACHED TO THE STEEL FENCE POST.
- 5. INSPECTION SHALL BE MADE WEEKLY OR AFTER EACH RAINFALL EVENT AND REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT SHALL BE MADE PROMPTLY AS NEEDED.
- 7. SILT FENCE SHALL BE REMOVED WHEN THE SITE IS COMPLETELY STABILIZED SO AS NOT TO BLOCK OR IMPEDE STORM FLOW OR DRAINAGE.
- 8. ACCUMULATED SILT SHALL BE REMOVED WHEN IT REACHES A DEPTH OF 6 INCHES. THE SILT SHALL BE DISPOSED OF IN AN APPROVED SITE AND IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO NOT CONTRIBUTE TO ADDITIONAL SILTATION

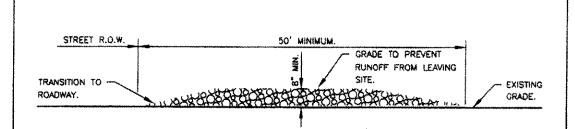
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APPLICANT: CITY OF ROUND ROCK, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

PROJECT: DRY BRANCH TRIBUTARY CHANNELIZATION

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NOTES:

- 1. STONE SIZE SHALL BE 3" 5" OPEN GRADED ROCK.
- 2. THICKNESS OF CRUSHED STONE PAD TO BE NOT LESS THAN 8".
- LENGTH SHALL BE A MINIMUM OF 50' FROM ACTUAL ROADWAY, AND WIDTH NOT LESS THAN FULL WIDTH OF INGRESS/EGRESS.
- ENTRANCE SHALL BE PROPERLY GRADED TO PREVENT RUNOFF FROM LEAVING THE CONSTRUCTION SITE.

THE ENTRANCE SHALL BE MAINTAINED IN A CONDITION WHICH WILL PREVENT TRACKING OR FLOWING OF SEDIMENT ONTO PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY. ALL SEDIMENT SPILLED, DROPPED, WASHED OR TRACKED ONTO PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY MUST BE REMOVED IMMEDIATELY BY CONTRACTOR.

AS NECESSARY, WHEELS MUST BE CLEANED TO REMOVE SEDIMENT PRIOR TO ENTRANCE ONTO PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY. WHEN WASHING IS REQUIRED, IT SHALL BE DONE ON AN AREA STABILIZED WITH CRUSHED STONE WHICH DRAINS INTO AN APPROVED SEDIMENT TRAP OR SEDIMENT BASIN. ALL SEDIMENT SHALL BE PREVENTED FROM ENTERING ANY STORM DRAIN, DITCH OR WATERCOURSE USING APPROVED METHODS.

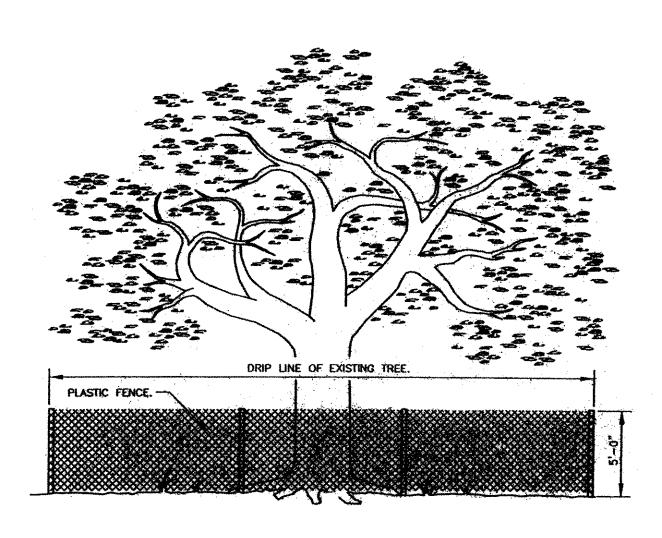
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APPLICANT: CITY OF ROUND ROCK, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

PROJECT: DRY BRANCH TRIBUTARY CHANNELIZATION

PROJECT#: 200200684

DATE: JUNE 2004 SHEET 16 OF 18

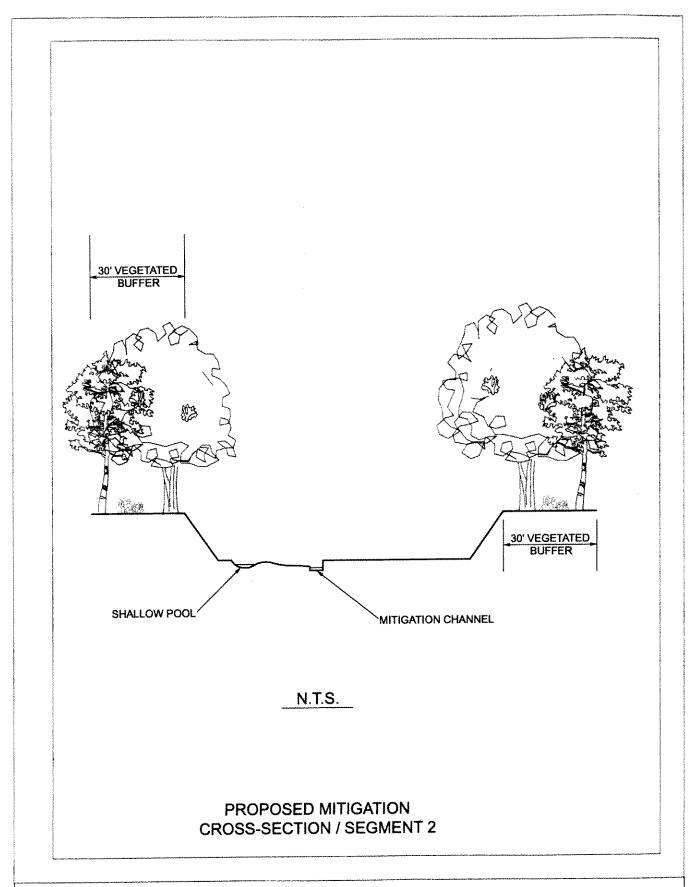


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APPLICANT: CITY OF ROUND ROCK, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

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APPLICANT: CITY OF ROUND ROCK, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

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